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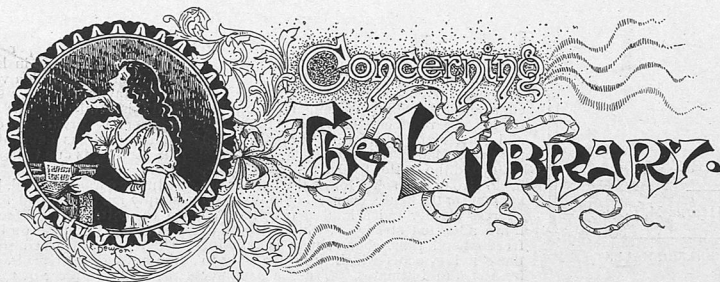
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"THE CENTURY" FOR AUGUST.

THE August issue of *The Century* is the Midsummer Holiday Number, and appears in a distinctive cover. The opening paper, "An Island Without Death," by Miss E. R. Scidmore, the author of "Jirrikisha Days," gives an account of a visit to Miyajima, a sacred island in the Inland Sea, one of the three great sights of Japan. A paper on "The Viceroy Li Hung Chang" is contributed by the Hon. J. W. Foster, who, it will be remembered, was lately confidential adviser to the Emperor of China, and in that capacity accompanied the viceroy to Japan, where the treaty of Shimonoseki was negotiated. General Foster, who is to be the host of Li Hung Chang in September, and is one of his most intimate friends, by this relation and by intimate experience of Chinese affairs has had unique facilities for the preparation of this paper. There is printed the first of a group of articles from the journals of the late E. J. Glave, who crossed Africa in the service of *The Century* in exploration of the slave trade. The article deals principally with "British Raids on the Slave-Traders," and is fully illustrated with photographs and drawings by the author. Prof. Flinders Petrie recently unearthed an historical tablet in Egypt containing what is believed to be the first monumental record by the Egyptians of the Children of Israel. In "Pharaoh of the Hard Heart," Professor Petrie describes the finding of the tablet, and discusses the character and reign of Merenptah, who erected it. Pictures of the tablet and of a splendid bust of the king, found at the same time, accompany the article. Marion Crawford contributes the fourth and last of his group of papers on Rome, the subject being "The Vatican." This is fully illustrated with pictures by Castaigne, including some notable sketches from life of Pope Leo XIII. There are four short stories: One of life in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco, by Chester Bailey Fernald; one of a Minnesota frontier town, by Marion Manville Pope; one of the Maine woods, by Thomas Wentworth Higginson, and one of the New Orleans Creoles, by Kate Chopin.

"HARPER'S MAGAZINE" FOR AUGUST.

THE August number of *Harper's Magazine* will contain the first part of a new serial story by Mark Twain, entitled "Tom Sawyer, Detective," narrating in the picturesque language of "Huck Finn" some new adventures of his resourceful boy friend. Ten drawings by A. B. Frost will contribute to the enjoyment of this startlingly dramatic story of the middle West in the last generation. A paper on "The White Mr. Longfellow" will be contributed by William Dean Howells, with a portrait of the poet and illustrations of his home at Cambridge. In "Stuart's

Lansdowne Portrait of Washington," Charles Henry Hart will contend that the original painting is in the possession of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and that the famous Lansdowne portrait is a copy. Engravings will also be given of four of Gilbert Stuart's portraits of Washington. "Peeps into Barbary," by J. E. Budgett Meakin, formerly editor of the *Times of Morocco*, with illustrations by F. de Myrbach, will give an insight into the character of contemporary primitive life in North Africa. A spirited description of sport in Northern Canada beyond the conventionalized woods and waters, entitled "The Strange Days that came to Jimmie Friday," by Frederic Remington, will be accompanied by ten illustrations from drawings by the author. William Hamilton Gibson will contribute, with beautiful illustrations, a delightful sketch of animate nature, entitled "Doorstep Neighbors." Besides the first instalment of Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer, Detective," and the second part of Langdon Elwyn Mitchell's lively novelette, "Two Mormons from Muddlety," illustrated by Gilbert Gaul, the number will contain five short stories: "Postes et Telegraphes," by Quesnay de Beaurepaire (*Procureur-Général*, and author of "The Woodman"), illustrated by Albert E. Sterner; "Her Prerogative," a humorous tale of artist life abroad, by E. A. Alexander, with illustrations by John W. Alexander; "Miss Maria's Revival," a vivid sketch of Southern life before the war, by Sarah Barnwell Elliott; "The Mayor's Lamps," an amusing story of municipal politics, by John Kendrick Bangs; and "The Wreck of the Columbia," a thrilling romance of the sea, by Prof. Simon Newcomb. A fine dramatic poem, "The Silent Voice," by Laurence Alma-Tadema, will be given, with illustrations by Edwin A. Abbey, one of which will be the frontispiece of the number. Short poems will be contributed by Archibald Lampman and Arthur Sherburne Hardy. The *Editor's Study* and the *Editor's Drawer* will complete a varied and richly illustrated number.

LITERARY NOTES.

THE wood-carvings and wrought-metal work of the middle ages attract the lover of the picturesque by certain irregularities of line and angularities of curve and plane which do no injury to the whole, yet give it a character not found in the work of the rounded, sand-papered school of today. The tools of these masters were often crude, and many of these accidental accents were doubtless due to this fact. Yet these men expressed grand ideals, and their work as it stands to-day has an individuality which is largely due to this very picturesqueness. There are comparatively few workers in wood to-day who appreciate this quality, and only recently has really artistic wood-carving been done by American car-

ers. One of our most eminent architects, in speaking of the desire of his wood-carvers to destroy all character by the sand-papering process, says that it is necessary to stand over these men and to take their work from them while they still consider it unfinished.—["Burnt Wood in Decoration," by J. William Fossick, in the August *Century*.]

SOMETHING entirely new in magazine illustration will appear in the Fiction Number of *Scribner's*. A comediatta by Annie Eliot is accompanied with sixteen pages of marginal illustrations and decorative borders, designed by Orson Lowell, and printed in two colors.

THE oldest decorated walls in the palace are those by Fra Angelico in the chapel of Nicholas. For some reason or other this chapel at one time ceased to be used, the door was walled up, and the very existence of the place was forgotten. In the last century Bottari, having read about it in Vasari, set to work to find it, and at last got into it through the window which looks upon the roof of the Sistine Chapel. The story, which is undoubtedly true, gives an idea of the vastness of the palace, and certainly suggests the possibility of more forgotten treasures of art shut up in forgotten rooms.

One other such at least there is. High up in the Borgia Tower, above the Stanze of Raphael, is a suite of rooms once inhabited by Cardinal Bibbiena, of the Chigi family, and used since then by more than one assistant secretary of state. There is a small chapel there, with a window looking upon an inner court, which was once the luxurious cardinal's bathroom, and was beautifully painted by Raphael in fresco, with mythological subjects. In 1835, according to Crowe and Cavalcaselle, Passavant saw it as it had originally been, with the frescoes, though much damaged, still beautiful, and the marble bath still in its place in a niche painted with river gods. In one of the Vatican's periodical fits of prudery, the frescoes were completely hidden with a wooden wainscot, the bathtub was taken away, and the room was turned into a chapel. It is believed, however, that the paintings still exist behind their present covering.—["The Vatican," by F. Marion Crawford, in the August *Century*.]

THE old-fashioned gardens that still exist in New England are very sympathetically described by Alice Morse Earle in the Fiction Number of *Scribner's*, with illustrations by the Misses Cowles, who have made studies for these pictures from old New England gardens.